

## Message Text

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42

ACTION SS-30

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /031 W

----- 123505

O R 211723Z FEB 74

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0588

INFO AMEMBASSY MEXICO CITY

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USMISSION OECD PARIS

AMEMBASSY OSLO

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 BONN 02866

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ENRG

SUBJECT: ENERGY ORGANIZING MEETING OF COORDINATING  
GROUP FEBRUARY 25

REF: STATE 34417

1. SUMMARY: THE AMBASSADOR CONVEYED THE SUBSTANCE OF  
THE POINTS IN REFTEL TO ACTING FOREIGN MINISTER FRANK.  
FRANK STRESSED THE NEED TO REMOVE DECISIONS ON THE  
COORDINATING GROUP FROM THE HIGH POLITICAL LEVEL AND  
TO TREAT THEM IN AN OBJECTIVE AND PRAGMATIC FASHION.  
END SUMMARY.

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2. IN THE ABSENCE OF FOREIGN MINISTER SCHEEL WHO IS

IN AUSTRIA, THE AMBASSADOR CALLED ON ACTING FOREIGN MINISTER FRANK AND CONVEYED THE POINTS, AS INSTRUCTED PER REFTEL. FRANK THANKED US FOR OUR VIEWS AND NOTED THAT IT WOULD ASSIST THE FRG IN THE DEFINITION OF ITS OWN POSITION ON THE FOLLOW-UP WORK OF THE CONFERENCE.

3. FRANK THEN STATED THAT IT WAS IMPORTANT THAT THESE DISCUSSIONS BE REMOVED FROM THE HIGH POLITICAL LEVEL AND BE CONSIDERED IN AN OBJECTIVE AND PRACTICAL FASHION. HE EXPRESSED THE VIEW THAT THE DATE AND THE PLACE OF THE COORDINATING GROUP MEETING SHOULD NOT BE A HIGHLY POLITICIZED DECISION. HE NOTED THAT THE MAJORITY OF THE EC MEMBERS FEELS THAT THE 25TH IS TOO SOON FOR A MEETING, SINCE IT DOES NOT ALLOW TIME FOR ADEQUATE PREPARATION AND HE SAID THAT THE EC PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVES WOULD BE DISCUSSING THIS ISSUE IN BRUSSELS TODAY.

4. FRANK STATED THAT IT WAS THE FRG'S WISH THAT FRANCE TAKE PART IN THE MEETING AND HE HOPED THAT THE EC COULD AGREE THAT THE MEETING SHOULD BEGIN ON THE 25TH. HE ADDED, HOWEVER, THAT SHOULD THE EC MEMBERS AGREE THAT THE 4TH OR THE 5TH OF MARCH WOULD BE A MORE APPROPRIATE DATE, THE US SHOULD NOT CONSIDER THIS TO BE A POLITICAL DECISION. FRANK STATED THAT THE FRG WAS TRYING TO DEAL WITH THIS ISSUE IN A SENSIBLE WAY AND THAT IT WAS PREPARED TO MEET ANYWHERE. HE REITERATED THAT THE FRG WAS MAKING EFFORTS WITHIN THE EC TO REMOVE THE PROBLEM FROM THE HIGH POLITICAL PLANE AND TO AVOID A RIFT SUCH AS AROSE IN THE ENERGY CONFERENCE IN WASHINGTON. HE SAID IT WOULD BE CATASTROPHIC IF THE DISCUSSION OVER THE TIMING OF THE COORDINATING GROUP ORGANIZING MEETING LED TO ANOTHER BIG CONFLICT.

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ACTION SS-30

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /031 W

----- 123509

O R 211723Z FEB 74  
FM AMEMBASSY BONN  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0589  
INFO AMEMBASSY MEXICO CITY  
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA  
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USMISSION EC BRUSSELS  
USMISSION OECD PARIS  
AMEMBASSY OSLO

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 BONN 02866

EXDIS

5. FRANK NOTED THAT THE FRG WOULD BE HAVING DISCUSSIONS WITH FRENCH FOREIGN MINISTER JOBERT ON MARCH 1 AND THAT IT INTENDED TO USE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO DISCUSS WAYS IN WHICH RELATIONS AMONG ALL INDUSTRIAL NATIONS COULD BE CONDUCTED ON THE BASIS OF COOPERATION AND NOT LEAD TO CONFLICTS. HE STATED THAT IN THIS REGARD THE EUROPEAN/ARAB DIALOGUE SHOULD NOT BE INTERPRETED AS LEADING TO COMPETITION WITH US. HE NOTED THAT THERE WAS A 1,000-YEAR HISTORY OF EUROPEAN/ARAB RELATIONS AND HE ARGUED THAT PRESENT EC/ARAB CONTACTS DO NOT HARM MIDDLE EAST PEACE EFFORTS. HE CONTENDED THAT WHAT WOULD HARM THESE EFFORTS MOST WOULD BE THE ISOLATION OF THE ARABS. HE NOTED THAT LIBYAN PREMIER JALLUD WOULD BE COMING TO BONN LATER  
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NEXT WEEK AND HE CHARACTERIZED THIS VISIT A STEP TOWARD PEACE AND NOT A COMPETITIVE MOVE.

6. THE AMBASSADOR ASKED WHAT FRANK'S VIEWS WERE ON THE ROLE OF THE EC AT NEXT MONDAY'S ORGANIZING MEETING, AND IF FRANCE WOULD PERMIT THE COMMISSION'S ATTENDANCE IF FRANCE ITSELF DID NOT ATTEND THE MEETING. FRANK SAID THAT THE PERMREPS WERE DISCUSSING THIS ISSUE AND THAT IN ALL PROBABILITY THE COMMISSION WOULD ATTEND THE MEETING EVEN IF FRANCE DID NOT. HE REMARKED THAT FRANCE WAS RETHINKING ITS POSITION IN GENERAL AFTER THE WASHINGTON CONFERENCE.

HILLENBRAND

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**Draft Date:** 21 FEB 1974  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** golinofr  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
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**TAGS:** ENRG  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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